

REMARKS

This response, submitted in response to the final Office Action dated April 21, 2006, is believed to be fully responsive to the points of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Claims 30 and 34-39 are pending. Claims 30-44 remain in the Application, with claims 30 and 34-39 being presently under consideration. Applicants are maintaining claims 31-33 and 40-44 in "withdrawn" status in the event that generic claim 30 is held to be in condition for allowance.

Claim 30 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over US 5,165,162 ("Charles"), in view of US 2,542,057 (Relis). Claims 34-39 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Charles, in view of Relis and further in view of US 4,975,672 (McLyman). Applicants submit the following remarks in support of the patentability of the claims over the cited art.

1. Claim 30:

Claim 30 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Charles, in view of Relis. Claim 30 is directed to a toroidal winding assembly comprising a winding core and at least one electrical conductor wound around the winding core to form a longitudinal assembly. The winding core comprises a substantially non-ferromagnetic core material. The longitudinal assembly is bent to form a generally toroidal assembly and has a first assembly end bonded to a second assembly end.

With respect to the comments on page 4 of the office action, Applicants respectfully submit that "said longitudinal assembly ... having a first assembly end bonded to a second assembly end" is a structural recitation and should be given patentable weight. Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that Charles does not teach or suggest a longitudinal assembly having a first assembly end bonded to a second assembly end, as recited by Claim 1. Rather, Charles is directed to a segmented core. For the illustrated embodiment, segments 16 are spaced by gaps 18 (Fig. 1, Col. 1, lines 42-46). In addition for the illustrated embodiment of Charles, dielectric shims are bonded between the segments 16 (Col. 3, lines 34-35).

Relis was cited in the Office Action as showing a non-magnetic core. However, Applicants submit that Relis does not supply the above-discussed deficiency of Charles.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 30 defines allowable subject matter over the applied art and respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 30 under 35 USC 103(a) be withdrawn.

2. Claims 34-39:

Claims 34-39 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Charles, in view of Relis and further in view of McLyman. Claims 34-39 depend from Claim 30. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 34-39 are patentably distinguishable over Charles and Relis, for at least the reasons discussed above. Applicants further submit that McLyman does not supply the above-discussed deficiencies of Charles and Relis. In addition, Applicants respectfully submit the following remarks regarding dependent claims 36-38.

Claims 36-38 depend from Claim 30 and further recite specific coating polymers. As noted by the Examiner, these recitations are not taught by the cited art. Instead, the Examiner asserts that they would be obvious design consideration. Applicants respectfully submit that no motivation has been provided to make the suggested modifications to the cited art. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that a prima facie case of obviousness has not been made.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 34-39 define allowable subject matter over the applied art and respectfully request that the rejections of Claims 34-39 under 35 USC 103(a) be withdrawn.

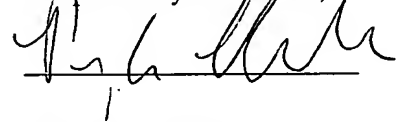
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Please charge all applicable fees associated with the submittal of this response and any other fees applicable to this application to the Assignee's Deposit Account No. 07-0868.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is needed to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,



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